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EXDIS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y FOR OMITTED PORTION NUBERED PAR 24.
20. VALLAUX (FRANCE) ASKED IF THE US WERE SURE, ASSUMING A PARTICULAR AIRCRAFT WERE NOT INCLUDED IN THE AGGREGATE, THAT THE SOVIET UNION COULD NOT WADE THE OBLIGATIONS OF THE AGREE-
MENT BY BUILDING A NEW VERSION THAT WAS SOMEWHAT LARGER AND MORE CAPABLE THAN THE ONE NOT INCLUDED. EARLE REPLIED THAT THE PROBLEM EXISTED HYPOTHETICALLY. NEVERTHELESS, IT SEEMD ADVISABLE TO SPECIFY BY NAME THE AIRCRAFT TO BE INCLUDED RATHER THAN SPECIFY A PARTICULAR PERFORMANCE CRITERION THAT WOULD CAUSE IT TO BE INCLUDED. IN THE LATTER CASE, THERE WOULD BE THE PROBLEM OF A SIDE DESIGNING AROUND THE LIMITATION. FOR EXAMPLE, IF TAKEOFF WEIGHT WERE THE CRITERION, AN AIRCRAFT COULD BE SPECIALLY DESIGNED WITH A WEIGHT ONE POUND LESS THAN THE THRESHOLD BUT WITH THE CAPABILITIES OF A HEAVY BOMBER. THE US COULD NOT TAKE ACCOUNT OF ALL EVENTUALITIES, AND INDEED, THIS WAS ONE OF THE REASONS FOR THE PROVISION IN THE SCC ARTICLE EMPOWERING THE SCC TO CONSIDER QUESTIONS OF COMPLIANCE AND RELATED QUESTIONS THAT MAY APPEAR AMBIGUOUS.

21. THOMSON (UK) EXPRESSED HIS HOPE THAT THE UNITED STATES WOULD NOT AGREE TO THE 600-KILOMETER LIMIT ON SEA-BASED AND AIR-BASED CRUISE MISSILES, IN VIEW OF SOVIET AIR DEFENSES. HE THEN ASKED THREE QUESTIONS: (1) DOES THE SOVIET UNION ACCEPT THE DISTINCTION BETWEEN MINUTEMAN III AND MINUTEMAN II? (2) AMONG THE CRUCIAL ISSUES REMAINING, TO WHAT EXTENT IS EITHER SIDE MAKING LINKAGES? HE NOTED AS A POSSIBLE EXAMPLE THAT AMBASSADOR JOHNSON HAD SAID LESS THAN WHAT THOMSON MIGHT HAVE GUESSED HE WOULD HAVE SAID WITH RESPECT TO LAND-BASED AND AIR-BASED MOBILE ICBMS. (3) DID EARLE GET THE IMPRESSION THAT THE SOVIETS WERE SERIOUS ABOUT REDUCTIONS? EARLE REPLIED AS FOLLOWS: (1) THE SOVIETS TAKE THE POSITION THAT THEY CAN DISTINGUISH BETWEEN MINUTEMAN III AND MINUTEMAN II, WHICH IS CONSISTENT WITH THEIR POSITION THAT NTM ARE SUFFICIENT FOR VERIFICATION PURPOSES. (2) THERE HAS BEEN VERY LITTLE ATTEMPT AT TRADING OFF IN THE

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NEGOTIATIONS EXCEPT IN MINOR MATTERS, AIR MOBCLES AND LAND
MIBILES, AS AMBASSADOR JOHNSON HAD SAID, ARE RELATED, BUT THE
RELATIONSHIP HAS NOT BEEN ARTICULATED. (3) THE SOVIET UNION IS
CURRENTLY RESISTING REDUCTION BY OCTOBER 3, 1977 TO THE AGREED
2400 LEVEL, AND HAVE PROPOSED THEY HAVE AN ADDITIONAL 12
MONTHS AFTER THAT DATE TO REACH IT. OUR POSITION IS THAT THEY MUST
REDUCE TO THIS LEVEL BY THAT DATE. CLEARLY, 12 MONTHS IS FAR
TOO LONG AN EXTENSION, THE SIDES ARE IN DISAGREEMENT ON THIS
SUBJECT, AS FOR FUTURE REDUCTIONS, ALTHOUGH THE SOVIETS AGREED
IN THE PREAMBLE TO AN OBJECTIVE OR REDUCTIONS, NOT MERELY POSSIBLE RREDUC
ONS, IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO PREDICT THEIR WILLINGNESS TO MAKE
FURTHER REDUCTIONS IN THE FUTURE.

22. VALLAUX (FRANCE) NOTED THAT THE QUESTION OF AIR-LAUNCHED
AND SEA-LAUNCHED CRUISE MISSILES WAS VERY IMPORTANT TO EUROPE
IN THE CONTEXT OF NON-TRANSFER AND ASKED IF THE UNITED STATES
WERE AWARE OF THIS INTEREST. EARLE REPLIED THAT WE ARE.

23. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION BY HOSTERT (LUXEMBOURG), EARLE
REPLIED THAT THE HEAVY MISSILE DEFINITION WAS IN TERMS OF THROW-
WEIGHT OR VOLUME GREATER THAN THAT OF THE LARGEST NON-HEAVY
MISSILE. ALTHOUGH SOMEWHAT TAUTOLOGICAL, GIVEN THE SALT HISTORY
AND NEGOTIATING RECORD, IT WAS WELL UNDERSTOOD BY BOTH SIDES.

24. WILLOT (BELIGUM) NOTED THAT IN THE PAST THE SOVIETS HAD
MENTIONED INCLUSION OF THE F-111 IN THE AGGREGATE. HAVE THEY
MENTIONED IT SINCE EARLE HAD LAST VISITED? EARLE REPLIED NO.

25. CA RI (ITALY), NOTING EUROPEAN INTEREST IN IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE CSCE AGREEMENT, ASKED IF THE SCC HAD PROVEN USEFUL
IN IMPLEMENTING THE SALT ONE AGREEMENTS. EARLE REPLIED, THAT,
AS AMBASSADOR JOHNSON HAD SAID (REFTEL C), THE SCC DISCUSSIONS
WERE USEFUL AND BUSINESSLIKE. IN EARLE'S VIEW, THE PROCEDURES
FOR DISMANTLING OR DESTROYING OLDER ICBM SITES NEGOTIATED IN
THE SCC HAD BEEN DETAILED AND FORTHCOMING ON THE SOVIET PART.
SO FAR AS THE CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS ON THE TERMS OF REFERENCE
FOR THE SCC IN THE FUTURE, THE PRINCIPAL SOVIET CONCERN APPEARS
TO BE THAT PROCEDURES REGARDING THE REPLACEMENT OF NEW SYSTEMS
AND THE CONVERSION OF EXISTING SYSTEMS COULD REPRESENT A US
ATTEMPT TO CONTROL THE SOVIET RATE OF CONVERSION FROM NON-MIRV
MISSILE LAUNCHERS TO MIRV MISSILE LAUNCHERS. IN THE NEGOTIATIONS
OVER THESE TERMS OF REFERENCE, THE US HAS REFINED ITS LANGUAGE
TO EXCLUDE THIS INTERPRETATION. GIVEN THE SOVIET PENCHANT FOR RSECRECY,
Y ARE RELUCTANT TO GIVE ASSURANCES THAT THEY WILL

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PROVIDE INFORMATION TO ANY EXTENT IN EXCESS OF WHAT IS ABSOLUTELY
 ESSENTIAL. HOWEVER, THEY HAVE MOVED TOWARD THE US POSITION ON
 THE SCC TERMS OF REFERENCE AND THEY MAY COME FARTHER. THEY
 APPEAR TO CONTINUE TO TAKE THE SCC QUITE SERIOUSLY. R 26. CHAIRMAN PARSCH
 ANKED MR. EARLE FOR HIS INFORMATIVE AND
 VERY USEFUL RESPONSES. IN LINE WITH ACTING NAC CHAIRMAN
 DE STAERKE'S REQUEST OF AMBASSADOR JOHNSON (REFTEL C), HE ADDED
 HIS HOPE THAT THERE WOULD BE FREQUENT EXPERTS' MEETINGS IN THE
 FUTURE. HE THEN CONCLUDED THE MEETING. BRUCE

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